

Amendments to the specification

Please replace paragraph [0003] with the following amended paragraph:

[0003] This poses, for example, the problem that when a retardation film (so-called quarter wavelength plate) having a retardation which is to be $1/4$ of the wavelength is used to produce an anti-reflection filter, a sufficient anti-reflection effect is obtained only in the wavelength range where the retardation is almost $1/4$ the wavelength and circularly polarized light is converted into elliptically polarized light at other wavelengths with the result that only insufficient anti-reflection effect is obtained. Also, when a retardation film (so-called half-wave plate) having a retardation which is to be $1/2$ of the wavelength is used to produce a ~~rotary~~ rotatory polarizer which is used for a liquid crystal projector and the like, only in the wavelength range where the retardation is almost $1/2$ of the wavelength can rotate a linearly polarized light as linearly polarized light, and linearly polarized light is converted into elliptically polarized light at other wavelengths with the result that only an insufficient ~~rotary~~ rotatory polarizing effect is obtained.

Please replace paragraph [0022] with the following amended paragraph:

[0022] 16. A circularly or elliptically polarizing film or a ~~rotary~~ rotatory polarizing film obtained by laminating the retardation film as claimed in any one of the above 11 to 15 and a polarizing film.

Please replace paragraph [0068] with the following amended paragraph:

[0068] The retardation film obtained in this manner according to the present invention and the used polarizing film are laminated such that the slow axis of the retardation film of the present invention forms a predetermined angle with the absorption axis of the polarizing film, whereby the elliptically polarizing film can be obtained. Also, the retardation value of the retardation film of the present invention at a wavelength of 550 nm is made to be about 137 nm and the retardation film obtained in this manner according to the present invention and the polarizing film are laminated such that the slow axis of the retardation film forms an angle of 45° with the absorption axis of the polarizing film, whereby

the circularly polarizing film of the present invention can be obtained. Moreover, the retardation value of the retardation film of the present invention at a wavelength of 550 nm is made to be about 275 nm and the polarizing film and the retardation film are laminated such that the absorption axis of the polarizing film forms an angle of 45° with the slow axis of the retardation film, whereby the ~~rotary~~ rotatory polarizing film of the present invention can be obtained. The circularly polarizing film obtained in this manner according to the present invention is used in, for example, a reflection type or a reflection semi-transmittable type liquid crystal display device or the ~~rotary~~ rotatory polarizing film of the present invention is used in a liquid crystal projector, and thus an image display device according to the present invention can be obtained. If, particularly, the wavelength dispersion characteristics of the circularly polarizing plate are such that the retardation is almost $1/4$ of each wavelength in the visible region, linearly polarized light can be converted into circularly polarized light in a wide wavelength range. Therefore, an image display device having a more excellent reflection preventive effect and contrast-improving effect than a circularly polarized plate using usual polycarbonate can be obtained.

Please replace paragraph [0069] with the following amended paragraph:

[0069] The ~~retary~~ rotatory polarizing film of the present invention can rotate the polarization axis of linearly polarized light without converting the linearly polarized light into elliptically polarized light in a wide wavelength range if the wavelength dispersion characteristics of the retardation film are such that the retardation is almost $1/2$ of each wavelength in the visible region. Therefore, if the ~~retary~~ rotatory polarizing film is used in a liquid crystal projector, light-utilization efficiency can be improved and a deterioration of a polarizing film caused by absorption of light can be prevented. Since the retardation film of the present invention enables the liquid crystal mixed-composition to be oriented in a rubbing direction by rubbing treatment and it is therefore possible to change the direction of the slow axis by changing the rubbing direction. This ensures that a retardation film in which the slow axis inclines at 45° with the longitudinal direction can be produced, for example, by using a roll-like lengthy high-molecular film, rubbing the film in a direction at 45° with the longitudinal direction, then forming a layer of the liquid

crystal mixed-composition of the present invention and orientation the composition in the rubbing direction. This retardation film and a polarizing film (polarizing films obtained by usual uniaxial orientation have a roll-like form and its absorption axis extending in the longitudinal direction) are laminated by a roll-to-roll method to thereby obtain the aforementioned circularly polarizing film and ~~rotary~~ rotatory polarizing film. This method makes it possible to make an improvement in yield more significantly than in the case of cutting one of a uniaxially stretched polarizing film and a retardation film to laminate.

Please replace paragraph [0086] with the following amended paragraph:

[0086] The liquid crystal mixed-composition of the present invention can be easily oriented in a specific direction on a rubbed substrate. If this orientation is fixed, a retardation film having such wavelength dispersion characteristics that almost the same retardation can be provided to each wavelength in a wide visible region can be easily obtained. If this retardation film is used, retardation films having various wavelength dispersion

characteristics can be produced without laminating plural retardation films. The retardation film obtained in this manner may be used in combination with a polarizing film as a circularly or elliptically polarizing film or ~~rotary~~ rotatory polarizing film in applications of various image display devices, whereby, for example, an excellent reflection preventive effect, contrast-improving effect and birefringence compensation effect can be obtained.